

REMARKS

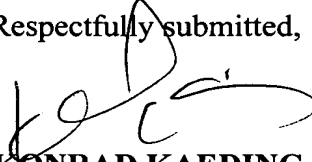
On January 20, 2004, the Examiner issued a Final Office Action:

- i. rejecting claims 1-4, 10-15, and 27-33; and
- ii. finding the remaining claims allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response, Applicants have amended the pending claims in accordance with the Examiner's requirement for allowability.

Applicants therefore respectfully request favorable reconsideration.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: _____

March 16, 2004
~~*Feb 16, 2004*~~